

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): ~~The transmitting device of claim 16, further comprising~~ A transmitting device for transmitting contents for which a copyright protection is necessary, to one or more receiving devices through a network, the transmitting device comprising:

a contents supply unit configured to store or generate the contents;

a communication processing unit configured to select a communication mode in a case of carrying out communications with receiving devices;

a device authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to determine a receiving device number indicating a number of receiving devices with which communications can be carried out, according to the communication mode selected by the communication processing unit, and to carry out device authentication and key exchange with receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number;

an encryption processing unit configured to encrypt the contents by using a key exchanged by the device authentication and key exchange processing unit;

a network interface unit configured to transmit the contents encrypted by the encryption processing unit, to the receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number; and

a revocation information registration unit configured to register an identification information of each receiving device to which a transmission of the contents should be prohibited;

wherein the device authentication and key exchange processing unit does not carry out the device authentication and key exchange with any receiving device whose identification information is registered in the revocation information registration unit.

Claim 20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): ~~The transmitting device of claim 20,~~ A transmitting device for transmitting contents for which a copyright protection is necessary, to one or more receiving devices through a wireless base station via a network, the transmitting device comprising:

a contents supply unit configured to store or generate the contents;

an ID recording unit configured to record in advance a network ID of the wireless base station which is to be used in an authentication processing with the wireless base station;

a network ID authentication processing unit configured to carry out authentication of the network ID with the wireless base station by using the network ID recorded in the ID recording unit;

a device authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to switch a receiving device number indicating a number of receiving devices with which communications can be carried out, according to an authentication result obtained by the network ID authentication processing unit, and to carry out device authentication and key exchange with receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number;

an encryption processing unit configured to encrypt the contents by using a key exchanged by the device authentication and key exchange processing unit; and

a network interface unit configured to transmit the contents encrypted by the encryption processing unit, to the receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number;

wherein the device authentication and key exchange processing unit switches the receiving device number such that the receiving device number used in a case where the authentication by the network ID authentication processing unit succeeds is larger than the receiving device number used in a case where the authentication fails.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): ~~The transmitting device of claim 20, further comprising~~ A transmitting device for transmitting contents for which a copyright protection is necessary, to one or more receiving devices through a wireless base station via a network, the transmitting device comprising:

a contents supply unit configured to store or generate the contents;

an ID recording unit configured to record in advance a network ID of the wireless base station which is to be used in an authentication processing with the wireless base station;

a network ID authentication processing unit configured to carry out authentication of the network ID with the wireless base station by using the network ID recorded in the ID recording unit;

a device authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to switch a receiving device number indicating a number of receiving devices with which communications can be carried out, according to an authentication result obtained by the network ID authentication processing unit, and to carry out device authentication and key exchange with receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number;

an encryption processing unit configured to encrypt the contents by using a key exchanged by the device authentication and key exchange processing unit;

a network interface unit configured to transmit the contents encrypted by the encryption processing unit, to the receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number; and

a base station ID registration unit configured to register at least one network ID of the wireless base station, in such a state that a number of times for changing once registered network ID is limited to be less than or equal to a prescribed number of times;

wherein the network ID authentication processing unit carries out the authentication according to the at least one network ID registered in the base station ID registration unit.

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Claim 23 (Currently Amended): ~~The transmitting device of claim 20, further comprising~~ A transmitting device for transmitting contents for which a copyright protection is necessary, to one or more receiving devices through a wireless base station via a network, the transmitting device comprising:

a contents supply unit configured to store or generate the contents;

an ID recording unit configured to record in advance a network ID of the wireless base station which is to be used in an authentication processing with the wireless base station;

a network ID authentication processing unit configured to carry out authentication of the network ID with the wireless base station by using the network ID recorded in the ID recording unit;

a device authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to switch a receiving device number indicating a number of receiving devices with which communications can be carried out, according to an authentication result obtained by the network ID authentication processing unit, and to carry out device authentication and key

exchange with receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number;

an encryption processing unit configured to encrypt the contents by using a key exchanged by the device authentication and key exchange processing unit;

a network interface unit configured to transmit the contents encrypted by the encryption processing unit, to the receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number; and

a transmission prohibition unit configured to prohibit a transmission of the contents when authentication by at least one of the device authentication and key exchange processing unit and the network ID authentication processing unit fails;

wherein the network ID authentication processing unit repeats the authentication of the network ID with the wireless base station at a prescribed time interval, and the transmission prohibition unit interrupts the transmission of the contents whenever the authentication of the network ID by the network ID authentication processing unit fails.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): ~~The transmitting device of claim 20, further comprising~~ A transmitting device for transmitting contents for which a copyright protection is necessary, to one or more receiving devices through a wireless base station via a network, the transmitting device comprising:

a contents supply unit configured to store or generate the contents;

an ID recording unit configured to record in advance a network ID of the wireless base station which is to be used in an authentication processing with the wireless base station;

a network ID authentication processing unit configured to carry out authentication of the network ID with the wireless base station by using the network ID recorded in the ID recording unit;

a device authentication and key exchange processing unit configured to switch a receiving device number indicating a number of receiving devices with which communications can be carried out, according to an authentication result obtained by the network ID authentication processing unit, and to carry out device authentication and key exchange with receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number;

an encryption processing unit configured to encrypt the contents by using a key exchanged by the device authentication and key exchange processing unit;

a network interface unit configured to transmit the contents encrypted by the encryption processing unit, to the receiving devices in number which is less than or equal to the receiving device number; and

a revocation information registration unit configured to register an identification information of each wireless base station to which a transmission of the contents should be prohibited;

wherein the network ID authentication processing unit does not carry out the authentication with any wireless base station whose identification information is registered in the revocation information registration unit.

Claims 25-35 (Canceled).